

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Estonian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT The Village of Abja

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REFERENCES

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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Personalities

1. The following are some of the better known officials and personalities in Abja (N 58-07, E 25-21), Estonia:

Kansonin (fnu), chairman of the Abja Rayon Ispolkom.

Oja (fnu), an active member of the ispolkom.

Kurg (fnu), an active member of the ispolkom and of the municipal services of the Abja Domupravleniye (housing administration). He is in charge of construction works in the rayon and of groups sent to assist the kolkhozniki.

Ida Allik, chairman of the Abja Village Ispolkom.

Kangur (fnu), chairman of the cooperative.

Tiin Hoidermäa, a dentist in charge of the Abja Rayon Sanitary Section. He was elected in the spring of 1953 to the oblast soviet.

Dr. Maend (fnu), a female doctor in charge of the hospital.

Meida Laarman, school superintendent.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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Partisan Activity and Anti-Communist Feeling

2. In the fall of 1952, a partisan was caught in the woods near Abja and detained under guard in the local hospital, because he was wounded.¹ He escaped on crutches.
3. In the spring of 1953, about 20 pupils, aged 12 to 15, and one teacher of the Abja elementary school were arrested for spreading anti-Communist propaganda and advising people to listen to foreign radio broadcasts. Some of the pupils were later released, but the fate of the others was unknown to source.²

Public Services

4. Electricity is furnished by the Ellama Power Station. It is 220 and 360 volts and probably AC. There is a power shortage; nearly every morning the electricity is cut off for a few hours. A new power station is being built in Rimmu, 20 kilometers northwest of Abja, because the old one was destroyed by fire on Christmas or New Year's Eve in 1950.
5. There is no town water system. Every house has a well, and the water is of good quality.
6. An ordinary letter sent from Abja to Norilsk (N 69-20, E 88-06) carries a 30-kopek stamp, while airmail costs one ruble.³ To send an ordinary letter from Norilsk to Abja costs 40 kopeks. The weight of parcels sent to the forced labor camp at Norilsk is limited to eight kilograms. Parcels can be sent only during the summer, when navigation is open.

Transportation

7.
8. The militia frequently check the drivers of trucks, automobiles, and motor-bicycles and their vehicles. It was rumored that the militia receive bonuses for fines collected, which accounts for the rigorous traffic control. Repeat courses for drivers of the third category are held periodically at a cost of 150-200 rubles. This is another means by which the militia acquire additional income. Enterprises send their drivers to the courses, in return for which the driver is bound to remain with the enterprise for a certain length of time.
9. The following bus lines go through Abja: Viljandi - Nuia - Abja - Pärnu and Pärnu - Abja - Nuia - Tõrva.

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Newspapers

12. Two newspapers are published in Abja, Kommunoor, which deals with local problems, and Kolhoosi Joud, which is concerned with life on the kolkhoz. The price is ten kopeks per copy. Newspapers and periodicals from Viljandi and Tallinn are also sold in Abja.

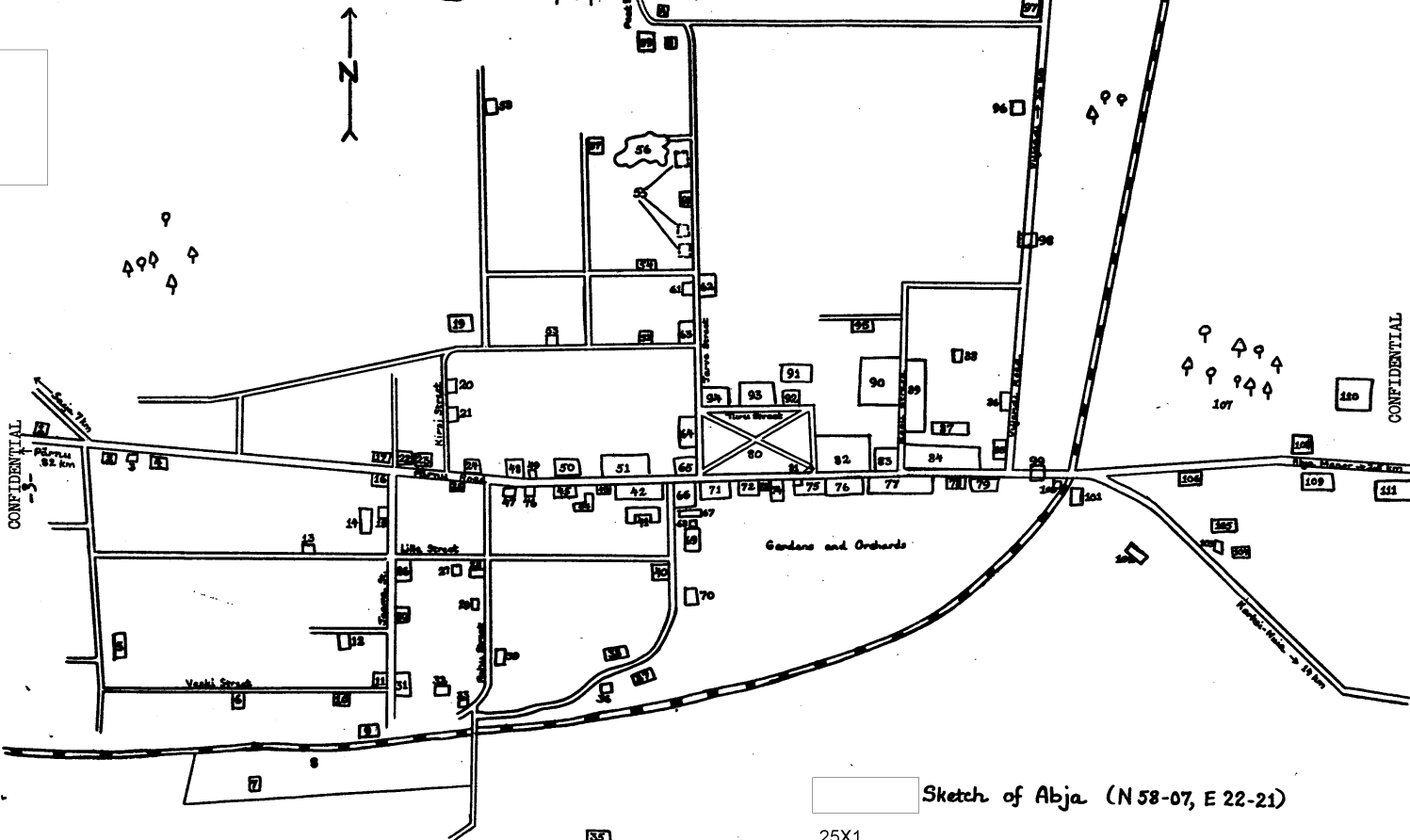
Elections

13. Elections are held at the schoolhouse (sic). Prior to the elections, an intensive propaganda campaign is carried on over the radio, in newspapers, posters, meetings, movie theaters, theaters, and by agitators.
14. On pages 4 - 7 is a legend to sketch of the village of Abja, which appears on page 3.

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The following is the legend to sketch of the village of Abja:

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1. Storehouse and office; A one-story wooden building. Kolkhozy deliver their hide quotas here. Hides can also be bought at this office.
2. Apartment house belonging to Kansolin (fnu), chairman of the Abja Rayon Ispolkom; Formerly, it was owned by the chief of the Abja Home Guard, Tammara (fnu), who was deported to the USSR. It is a one-story wooden building.
3. Office of the prosecutor of Abja Rayon.
4. Home of Rohtmets (fnu), director of the promkombinat;⁴ It is a one-story wooden building.
5. A two-story yellow building; Probably of brick. Many workers' families, most of whom are Russians, live here.
6. A small wooden dwelling.
7. Small wooden shack for the train-loading crews.
8. Storage lot.
9. A low barrack serving as the railroad station; The old station was destroyed during the war and has not been rebuilt.
10. Abja Voenkomat (military commissariat); A one- and two-story wooden building. Russian families live in the one-story section; the Red Corner occupies the ground floor of the two-story section, and the office of the military commissar and the voenkomat occupy the second floor.
11. (Source failed to identify this building)
12. Private dwelling; An old wooden building in poor condition.
13. A small wooden dwelling.
14. Sawmill and flour mill of the promkombinat.
15. A small wooden structure occupied by a half-witted prostitute.
16. A low wooden building housing the watch repair shop and mechanical workshop of a promkombinat directed by Reinart (fnu).
17. Private dwelling.
18. A one-story wooden dwelling with an attic.
19. Sauna; Not in operation because of lack of water. A one-story stone building.
20. Feltmakers' artel; A small wooden building. Orders are accepted and finished work delivered at this place.
21. Shoemaker's shop of the promkombinat directed by Reinart; A one-story wooden building.
22. Drugstore; A two-story yellowish-white stone building with a tin roof.
23. Hospital of Abja Rayon; A two-story wooden building.
24. A one-story, yellow wooden building; The bread store of the Cooperative is located in one end and the Abja Inn is located in the attic of the

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other end.

25. A two-story, gray wooden building occupied by a butcher and a photographer.
26. A one-story, gray wooden dwelling occupied by three families.
27. Home of several militia members; A small yellow wooden house.
28. Automobile repair shop and garage.
29. Private home; A recently built, small wooden shack.
30. A one-story wooden building: The front of the building is occupied by the Tõrva Construction Office, while the back is used as living quarters. The manager of the construction office, Mart Kisson, lives at the Tõht kolkhoz.
31. Militia station; A two-story, yellow wooden building. On the ground floor is the passport desk.
32. A small wooden dwelling.
33. Small kiosk where alcoholic beverages are sold by a Russian woman: It is open until 0200 hours.
34. Airfield.
35. Large wooden hay barn with a shingled roof.
36. Transformer station; A small stone building.
37. Corn storehouse; A stone building.
38. Gasoline storage; A cellar.
39. A one-story wooden dwelling.
40. A one-story wooden building occupied by a number of families.
41. Warehouse; A low wooden building.
42. Consumers' Cooperative; A two-story brick building.
43. One-story wooden building occupied by a library, a bookstore, and an agitpunkt (political agitation center).
44. Low wooden building, part of which is occupied by the promkombinat locksmith shop.
45. A large, one-story wooden dwelling.
46. Canteen; A small wooden building.
47. Hairdressers' artel of the Consumers' Cooperative; A low wooden building.
48. Long wooden building, one end of which is occupied by the village ispolkom and the other by the car park office (sic) and the registrar's office (sic).
49. Kolkhoz store.
50. Office of the promkombinat directed by Reinart, a one-story, long wooden building.
51. Two-story wooden building, occupied by a restaurant on the ground floor and a dispensary on the second floor. The restaurant is open from 0900

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hours until 2100 hours.

52. A small wooden dwelling.
53. A small wooden dwelling.
54. Private dwelling; Formerly a promkombinat office.
55. (Source failed to identify)
56. (Source failed to identify)
57. A one-story wooden building with white-washed walls.
58. A small wooden dwelling.
59. Public Welfare Office located in the former Leesmondi farmhouse. In addition to the main building, there is a stable (a) and a barn (b); all the buildings are of wood.
60. A small wooden dwelling.
61. A small yellow house.
62. A large, yellow wooden house with an attic.
63. Office and tailor shop of the promkombinat; A yellow wooden house with an attic.
64. Cooperative warehouse; A long low wooden building.
65. Building of the rayon court; A one-story, blue wooden building.
66. Finance Department of Abja Rayon; A one-story stone building.
67. Cooperative warehouse; A low wooden building.
68. A wooden shack.
69. A roomy, one-story wooden house.
70. Carpenter's shop of the promkombinat directed by Reinart; A one-story wooden building.
71. Wooden building, one end of which is occupied by the promkombinat printing office.
72. Kindergarten; A wooden building.
73. State Purchasing Office; Formerly a shop called Pops, the name of the owner.
74. Promkombinat sausage plant; A small two-story red brick building.
75. Low wooden building.⁵
76. Store for the kolkhozniki; A low wooden building.
77. Abja Rayon Ispolkom; A two-story wooden building.
78. Electric power office; A low wooden building.
79. Two-story wooden building occupied by various offices.

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80. Park containing small trees and shrubs: Nearby is the Abja bus stop.
81. Signboard where the kolkhoz production graphs are posted.
82. Elementary school; A two-story building with white-washed walls.
83. Garages for fire truck and ambulance.
84. School dormitory; A two-story yellow wooden building.
85. Workers' dwelling.
86. A one-story yellow wooden dwelling.
87. Cooperative warehouse for alcoholic beverages; A low wooden building.
88. A small wooden dwelling.
89. Cooperative warehouse; A low wooden building.
90. Small market place.
91. Butter plant; A one-story stone building.
92. Butter industry office; A small wooden building.
93. Post office; A three-story gray stone building, with a red tile roof.
94. Road management office; A small wooden building.
95. A yellow wooden dwelling with an attic.
96. A one-story wooden dwelling.
97. One-story wooden building which belongs to the promkombinat.
98. and 99. Small bridges.
100. Railroad watchman's shack.
101. Small wooden house.
102. Sawmill of the promkombinat directed by Reinart; Under construction.
103. Promkombinat storehouse; Formerly part of the Suka farm.
104. Carpenter shop of the promkombinat; Formerly part of the Suka farm.
105. One-story wooden building which belongs to the promkombinat.⁶
106. A small wooden dwelling.
107. School Park.
108. A one-story wooden dwelling.
109. Bank; Formerly the county building, a one-story brick building.
110. Secondary school; A roomy, two-story, white-washed building.
111. Movie theater; A long one-story wooden building.

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Comments

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3. According to available information, domestic letters weighing up to 20 grams require a 40-kopek stamp. Source may be referring to domestic printed matter weighing up to 50 grams, which costs 30 kopeks.
4. Throughout the legend, the promkombinat of the Abja Rayon Consumers' Union, [REDACTED] will be referred to as the promkombinat to distinguish it from another promkombinat in Abja which will be referred to as the promkombinat directed by Reinart.

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